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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference CM1431/KL	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US98/01084	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 JANUARY 1998	Priority date (day/month/year) 23 JANUARY 1997
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(6): C11D 1/29, 1/75, 1/83 and US Cl.: 510/237, 423, 424, 427, 433		
Applicant THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of <u>0</u> sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 29 JULY 1998	Date of completion of this report 16 FEBRUARY 1999
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer GREGORY R. DEL COTTO Telephone No. (703) 308-0661

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01084

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments):*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-15 , as originally filed.
pages NONE , filed with the demand.
pages NONE , filed with the letter of _____
pages _____ , filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1-11 , as originally filed.
Nos. NONE , as amended under Article 19.
Nos. NONE , filed with the demand.
Nos. NONE , filed with the letter of _____
Nos. _____ , filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ none , as originally filed.
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the demand.
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the letter of _____
sheets/~~fig~~ _____ , filed with the letter of _____

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages none
- ☒ the claims, Nos. none
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ none

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

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III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

The question whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non-obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been and will not be examined in respect of:

- ☐ the entire international application.
- ☒ claims Nos. 3-10

because:

- ☐ the said international application, or the said claim Nos. _ relate to the following subject matter which does not require international preliminary examination (*specify*).

- ☒ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. 3-10 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*).

Claims 3-10 are improper multiple dependent claims under PCT Rule 6.4(a) in that they are dependent upon other multiple dependent claims and do not refer to the claims in the alternative.

- ☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. _ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

- ☐ no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. _.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1, 2, 11</u>	YES
	Claims <u>none</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>none</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1, 2, 11</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1, 2, 11</u>	YES
	Claims <u>none</u>	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1, 2, and 11 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Naik (US 5,387,373).

Naik teaches a stable aqueous detergent composition in liquid or gel form containing from 10 to 80% by weight of an active detergent mixture comprising primary alkyl sulphate in an amount of 15 to 75% by weight of the active detergent plus betaine and/or amine in an amount of 10 to 40% by weight of the active detergent mixture. See Abstract. Additionally, an alkyl ether sulphate surfactant having a C10 to C18 primary or secondary alkyl group can be used in the composition. Note that, Examples 3 and 4 teach detergent compositions containing 48% and 50% water, respectively. See column 8, lines 10-25.

Naik does not exemplify a composition as recited by the instant claims.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to formulate an aqueous liquid detergent composition containing an alkyl alkoxy sulphate surfactant, an amine oxide surfactant and water in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims since the broad teachings of Naik encompass aqueous liquid detergent compositions containing an alkyl alkoxy sulphate surfactant, an amine oxide surfactant and water in the specific proportions as recited by the instant claims.

Claims 1, 2 and 11 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2) since the prior art fails to exemplify the composition as recited by the instant claims.

Claims 1, 2 and 11 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4) because the invention as claimed has utility as dishwashing detergent.

----- NEW CITATIONS -----

NONE